Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 ARA-10 IO-13 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 ICA-11 /099 W

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R 120657Z JUN 78

FM AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6442

INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

AMEMBASSY BANGUI

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY DJIBOUTI

AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

AMEMBASSY PARIS

USMISSION USUN

CONFIDENTIAL MOGADISCIO 1309

E.O. 11652: GDS TAGS: MOPS, SO, CG

SUBJ: NO SOMALI CONTINGENT FOR SHABA SAYS FOMIN DIRECTOR GENERAL

REF: KINSHASA 5956

1. DURING A CALL JUNE 11 AT THE FOREIGN MINISTRY ON OTHER BUSINESS, CHARGE TOOK THE OPPORTUNITY TO INQUIRE ABOUT THE REPORTED SOMALI CONTRIBUTION TO THE SHABA FORCE. DIRECTOR GENERAL MOHAMED SHERIF SAID HE HAD SEEN PRESS REPORTS OF A SOMALI CONTINGENT, BUT SAID TO HIS KNOWLEDGE THESE REPORTS WERE FALSE. MOHAMED SAID THAT THE SOMALI ARMY DID NOT HAVE PROPER EQUIPMENT FOR ITS ARMED FORCES, AND THEREFORE COULD NOT CONSIDER SENDING A CONTINGENT TO A PEACE KEEPING FORCE.

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2. COMMENTING ON HIS OWN MISSION TO SOMALIA, BRITISH MINISTER OF STATE ROWLANDS TOLD THE CHARGE ON JUNE 11 THAT A SOMALI CONTINGENT FOR SHABA HAD NOT COME UP IN HIS DISCUSSIONS WITH PRESIDENT SIAD ON JUNE 9. ROWLANDS SAID THAT SIAD WAS VERY CRITICAL OF THE CONCEPT OF AFRICAN COLLECTIVE SECURITY, AND DISMISSED THE

SHABA INTERVENTION AS NOT VERY IMPORTANT.

3. COMMENT: WE WOULD BE SURPRISED IF THE GSDR HAS IN FACT OFFERED A CONTINGENT TO THE SHABA FORCE. MOHAMED SHERIF IS NOT INVARIABLY WELL INFORMED ON ALL OF THE GSDR'S FOREIGN POLICY INITIATIVES, BUT IT SEEMS UNLIKELY THAT SIAD WOULD MAKE LIGHT OF THE SHABA MATTER TO ROWLANDS IF IN FACT THE GADS HAD OFFERED A CONTINGENT.

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